

CHAPTER 91  
WATERFOWL AND COOT HUNTING SEASONS

[Prior to 12/31/86, Conservation Commission[290] Ch 107]

**571—91.1(481A) Ducks (split seasons).** The north duck hunting zone is that part of Iowa north of a line beginning on the Nebraska-Iowa border at State Highway 175, east to State Highway 37, southeast to U.S. Highway 59, south to I-80 and along I-80 to the Iowa-Illinois border. The south duck hunting zone is the remainder of the state. Open season for hunting ducks shall be September 21 to September 25, 2002, and October 12 to December 5, 2002, in the north zone; September 21 to September 23, 2002, and October 19 to December 14, 2002, in the south zone. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day. The season for canvasbacks will be closed. The season for pintails will be from September 21 to September 25, 2002, and October 12, 2002, to November 5, 2002, in the north zone; September 21 to September 23, 2002, and October 19, 2002, to November 14, 2002, in the south zone.

**91.1(1) Bag limit.** The daily bag limit of ducks is 6, and may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 1 black duck, 2 wood ducks, 1 pintail, 3 scaup, 3 mottled ducks, and 2 redheads. The daily bag limit of mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser.

**91.1(2) Possession limit.** Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

**571—91.2(481A) Coots (split season).** Same as duck season dates and shooting hours.

**91.2(1) Bag and possession limits.** Daily bag limit is 15 and possession limit is 30.

**91.2(2) Reserved.**

**571—91.3(481A) Geese.** The north goose hunting zone is that part of Iowa north of a line beginning on the Nebraska-Iowa border at State Highway 175, east to State Highway 37, southeast to U.S. Highway 59, south to I-80 and along I-80 to the Iowa-Illinois border. The south goose hunting zone is the remainder of the state. The open season for hunting Canada geese, white-fronted geese and brant, collectively referred to as dark geese, is September 28 to December 6, 2002, in the north goose hunting zone and September 28 to October 20 and November 9 to December 25, 2002, in the south goose hunting zone. The open season for hunting white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese, collectively referred to as light geese, is September 28, 2002, to January 12, 2003, statewide. Light geese may also be taken under the conservation order from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from February 1, 2003, through April 15, 2003. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except that during the conservation order shooting hours will be extended to one-half hour after sunset each day.

**91.3(1) Bag limit.** Daily bag limit is 2 Canada geese, 2 white-fronted geese, 2 brant, and 20 light geese.

**91.3(2) Possession limit.** Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit and no possession limit on light geese.

**571—91.4(481A) Closed areas.** Waterfowl and coots may be hunted statewide except in specific areas.

**91.4(1) *Waterfowl and coots.*** There shall be no open season for ducks, coots and geese on the east and west county road running through sections 21 and 22, township 70 north, range 43 west, Fremont County; three miles of U.S. Highway 30, located on the south section lines of sections 14, 15, and 16, township 78 north, range 45 west, Harrison County; on the county roads immediately adjacent to, or through, Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge, Kossuth County; Louisa County Road X61 from the E-W centerline of section 29, township 74 north, range 2 west, on the south, to the point where it crosses Michael Creek in section 6, township 74 north, range 2 west on the north, and also all roads through or adjacent to sections 7, 18, and 19 of this same township and roads through or adjacent to sections 12 and 13, township 74 north, range 3 west; the levee protecting the Green Island Wildlife Area from the Mississippi River in Jackson County wherever the levee is on property owned by the United States or the state of Iowa; certain dikes at Otter Creek Marsh, Tama County, where posted as such; and the NE¼, section 23 and the N½, section 24, all in township 70 north, range 19 west, Appanoose County, including county roads immediately adjacent thereto; and all privately owned lands in the S½, section 30, township 71 north, range 20 west, Lucas County, including the county road immediately adjacent thereto; Cerro Gordo County Road S14 and its right-of-way, between its junction with U.S. Highway 18 and County Road B-35, and portions of Clear Lake and Ventura Marsh; where posted as such in Cerro Gordo County. That portion of Summit Lake located south of State Highway 25 in the west ½ of the NW¼ of section 2 (22 acres), and the west ½ of section 3 (100 acres), T72N, R31W in Union County.

**91.4(2) *Canada geese.*** There shall be no open season on Canada geese in certain areas described as follows:

*a. Area one.* Portions of Emmet County bounded as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of section 3, township 98 north, range 33 west; thence east on the county road a distance of five miles; thence south on the county road a distance of three and one-half miles; thence west on the county road a distance of four miles; then continuing west one mile to the southwest corner of the northwest one-quarter of section 22, township 98 north, range 33 west; thence north on the county road to the point of beginning.

*b. Area two.* Portions of Clay and Palo Alto Counties bounded as follows: Beginning at the junction of County Roads N14 and B17 in Clay County, thence south four miles on N14 (including the road right-of-way), thence east one-half mile, thence east one mile on a county road, thence north one mile on a county road, thence east one mile on a county road to County Road N18, thence south and east approximately one mile on N18, thence east one and one-half miles on a Palo Alto County Road, thence north two miles on a county road, thence east approximately one and one-half miles on a county road, thence north two miles on a county road to County Road B17, thence west six miles to the point of beginning.

*c. Area three.* A portion of Dickinson County bounded as follows: Beginning at a point four and one-half miles west of the east junction of Highways 9 and 71; thence north along a county road to its junction with Dickinson County Road A15; thence generally north about three miles along A15 to its junction with Dickinson County Road M56; thence east along A15 about one and one-half miles; thence north along county roads to the Iowa-Minnesota state line; thence west along the state line seven and one-half miles; thence south along Highway 86 five miles to Highway 9; thence east along Highways 9 and 71 to the point of beginning.

*d. Area four.* Portions of Winnebago and Worth Counties bounded as follows: Beginning at a point two and one-half miles east of Lake Mills, Iowa, at the junction of State Highway 105 and County Road S10 (also named Bluebill Ave.); thence south along County Road S10 (including the right-of-way), i.e., Bluebill Ave., three-fourths mile to 448th St.; thence east three-fourths mile on 448th St. to Cardinal Ave.; thence south one-fourth mile to 445th St.; thence east one-fourth mile to Cedar Ave.; thence south one-half mile on Cedar Ave. to 440th St.; thence east three-fourths mile on 440th St. to Dove Ave.; thence south on Dove Ave. one-half mile to 435th St.; thence east one-fourth mile on 435th St. to Dove Ave.; thence south on Dove Ave. to County Road A34; thence east one mile on County Road A34 (including the right-of-way) to Evergreen Ave.; thence south two miles to County Road A38 (also named 410th St.); thence west eight and one-half miles along County Road A38 including the right-of-way; thence north four miles along County Road R72 (also named 210th Ave.) (including the right-of-way); thence east along State Highway 69 approximately one mile (including the right-of-way) to the intersection with State Highway 105; thence east along State Highway 105 (including the right-of-way) five miles to the point of beginning.

*e. Area five.* On any federal or state-owned lands or waters of the Rathbun Reservoir Project west of State Highway 142 in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe, and Wayne Counties, including all federal, state, and county roads through or immediately adjacent thereto.

*f. Area six.* On Brown's Slough and the Colyn Area in Lucas County.

*g. Area seven.* Portions of Guthrie and Dallas Counties bounded as follows: Beginning at the junction of State Highways 4 and 44 in Panora; thence north along State Highway 4 (including the right-of-way) to County Road F25; thence east along County Road F25 (including the right-of-way) to York Avenue; thence south along York Avenue 1 mile (including the right-of-way) to 170th Street; thence east one-half mile (including the right-of-way) to A Avenue in Dallas County; thence south on A Avenue 5 miles (including the right-of-way) to State Highway 44; thence west along State Highway 44 (including the right-of-way) to the point of beginning.

*h. Area eight.* A portion of Adams County bounded as follows: Beginning at the intersection of State Highway 148 and Adams County Road N53 in Corning; thence east and north along Adams County Road N53 approximately 9.5 miles to Adams County Road H24 (including the right-of-way); thence west along Adams County Road H24 (including the right-of-way) about 6 miles to Hickory Avenue; thence south along Hickory Avenue (including the right-of-way) about 6 miles to Adams County Road H34; thence east along Adams County Road H34 (including the right-of-way) to State Highway 148; thence north along State Highway 148 about three-fourths mile to the point of beginning.

*i. Area nine.* Portions of Monona and Woodbury Counties bounded as follows: Beginning at the Iowa-Nebraska state line along the Missouri River in Monona County at the southwest corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 18, township 82 north, range 45 west; extending one and one-half miles east along an unnumbered county road to the center of section 17, township 82 north, range 45 west; then north one mile along county road to the center of section 8, township 82 north, range 45 west; thence east one mile along county road to the intersection of Monona County Roads K45 and E60; thence north and northwest approximately 20 miles along Monona County Road K45 to the junction with State Highway 970 in Woodbury County; thence continuing northwest along State Highway 970 (including the right-of-way) approximately 13 miles to the intersection with 220th Street; thence west approximately 3 miles along the Sergeant Bluff Drainage Ditch to the Iowa-Nebraska state line along the Missouri River; thence southerly along the state line approximately 43 miles to the point of beginning.

*j. Area ten.* Rescinded IAB 9/5/01, effective 8/17/01.

k. *Area eleven.* Starting at the junction of the navigation channel of the Mississippi River and the mouth of the Maquoketa River in Jackson County, proceeding southwesterly along the high-water line on the west side of the Maquoketa River to U.S. Highway 52; thence south along U.S. Highway 52 (including the right-of-way) to County Road Z-40; thence south on County Road Z-40 (including the right-of-way) to U.S. Highway 64; thence east on U.S. Highway 64 (including the right-of-way) to 550th Avenue; thence north along 550th Avenue (including the right-of-way) to U.S. Highway 52; thence southeast along U.S. Highway 52 (including the right-of-way) to 607th Avenue; thence east along 607th Avenue to the Sioux Line Railroad; thence north and west along the Sioux Line Railroad to the Green Island levee; thence northeast along a line following the Green Island levee to the center of the navigational channel of the Mississippi River; thence northwest along the center of the navigational channel to the point of beginning.

l. *Area twelve.* Portions of Polk, Warren, Jasper, and Marion Counties bounded as follows: Beginning at the junction of County Road G40 and Iowa Highway 14 in Marion County; thence north along Highway 14 to Iowa Highway 163 in Jasper County; thence north and west along Highway 163 to State Highway 316; thence south and east along Highway 316 (including the right-of-way) to Iowa Highway 5; thence south and east along Highway 5 to County Road G40 in Marion County; thence east along County Road G40 to the point of beginning.

m. *Area thirteen.* Portions of Van Buren and Davis Counties bounded as follows: Beginning at the junction of State Highway 16 and State Highway 98 in Van Buren County; thence east and south along State Highway 16 (including the right-of-way) to State Highway 1 in Van Buren County; thence south along State Highway 1 (including the right-of-way) to State Highway 2; thence east along State Highway 2 (including the right-of-way) to County Road W20; thence south along County Road W20 (including the right-of-way) to the Iowa-Missouri border; thence west along the Iowa-Missouri border to State Highway 15 in Van Buren County; thence north along State Highway 15 (including the right-of-way) to State Highway 2 in Van Buren County; thence west along State Highway 2 (including the right-of-way) to County Road V42 in Davis County; thence north along County Road V42 (including the right-of-way) to County Road J40 in Davis County; thence east and south along County Road J40 (including the right-of-way) to County Road V64 in Van Buren County; thence north along County Road V64 (including the right-of-way) to State Highway 98 in Van Buren County; thence north along State Highway 98 (including the right-of-way) to the point of beginning.

n. *Area fourteen.* Portions of Bremer County bounded as follows: Beginning at the intersection of County Road V56 and 120th Street; thence south along County Road V56 (including the right-of-way) to State Highway 3; thence west along State Highway 3 (including the right-of-way) to County Road V43; thence north along County Road V43 (including the right-of-way) to County Road C33; thence west along County Road C33 (including the right-of-way) to U.S. Highway 63; thence north 9 miles along U.S. Highway 63 (including the right-of-way) to the Bremer-Chickasaw County line; thence east 5.5 miles along the Bremer-Chickasaw County line road (including the right-of-way) to Quantum Avenue; thence south along Quantum Avenue (including the right-of-way) to 120th Street; thence east along 120th Street (including the right-of-way) to the point of beginning.

o. *Area fifteen.* Portions of Butler County bounded as follows: Beginning at the junction of Iowa Highway 3 and County Road T16, thence south 8 miles on County Road T16 (including the right-of-way) to its intersection with County Road C55, thence east 9 miles on County Road C55 (including the right-of-way) to its intersection with Iowa Highway 14, thence north 8 miles on Iowa Highway 14 (including the right-of-way) to its intersection with Iowa Highway 3, thence west 9 miles on Iowa Highway 3 (including the right-of-way) to the point of beginning; but, excluding those lands within this bounded area east of Jay Avenue managed by the department of natural resources as Big Marsh Management Area that are not posted as closed to Canada goose hunting.

*p. Area sixteen.* A portion of Union County bounded as follows: Beginning at the intersection of U.S. Highways 34 and 169 near Thayer; thence west along U.S. Highway 34 (including the right-of-way) approximately nine miles to Union County Road P43 (also named Twelve Mile Lake Road); thence north along Union County Road P43 (including the right-of-way) approximately seven miles, thence east on an unnumbered county road approximately four and one-half miles; thence south on an unnumbered county road to Union County Road H17, thence east along Union County Road H17 (including the right-of-way) to U.S. Highway 169; thence south along U.S. Highway 169 (including the right-of-way) to the point of beginning.

*q. Area seventeen.* Portions of Fremont and Mills Counties bounded as follows: Beginning at the Iowa-Nebraska state line along the Missouri River in Fremont County at the southwest corner of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 23, township 69 north, range 44 west; extending east approximately one-half mile to Fremont County Road J-26, thence six and one-half miles east on Fremont County Road J-26 (including the right-of-way) to the intersection with Fremont County Road L-44; thence northerly approximately ten miles on Fremont County Road L-44 (including the right-of-way) to the intersection with Fremont County Road J-10, thence approximately three miles northwest along the base of the Loess Hills to Mills County Road H-36 in the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 27, township 71 north, range 43 west, thence northerly approximately seven miles along Mills County Road H-36 (including the right-of-way) to the intersection with Iowa Highway 385; thence approximately two and one-fourth miles southwesterly along Iowa Highway 385 (including the right-of-way) to the intersection with U.S. Highway 34, thence approximately three miles west on U.S. Highway 34 (including the right-of-way) to the Iowa-Nebraska state line along the Missouri River, thence southerly along the state line approximately 20 miles to the point of beginning.

**91.4(3) Forney Lake.** The entire Forney Lake area, in Fremont County, north of the east-west county road, shall be closed to waterfowl hunting prior to the opening date for taking geese on the area each year.

#### **571—91.5(481A) Canada goose hunting within closed areas.**

##### **91.5(1) Ruthven, Kettleson-Hogsback, Ingham Lake and Rice Lake closed areas.**

*a. Purpose.* The hunting of Canada geese in closed areas is being undertaken to allow landowners or tenants who farm in these closed areas to hunt Canada geese on land they own or farm in the closed area.

##### *b. Criteria.*

(1) Landowners and tenants who own or farm land in the closed areas will be permitted to hunt Canada geese in the closed areas for three years. This experimental hunting opportunity will be evaluated by the landowners and the DNR following each season, at which time changes may be made.

(2) Landowners and those individuals named on the permit according to the criteria specified in paragraph (9) of this subrule will be permitted to hunt in the closed area. Tenants may obtain a permit instead of the landowner if the landowner transfers this privilege to the tenant. Landowners may choose, at their discretion, to include the tenant and those individuals of the tenant's family specified in paragraph (9) of this subrule on their permit. Landowners may assign the permit for their land to any landowner or tenant who owns or farms at least eight acres inside the closed area. Assigned permits must be signed by both the permittee and the landowner assigning the permit.

(3) Landowners must hold title to, or tenants must farm by a rent/share/lease arrangement, at least eight acres inside the closed area to qualify for a permit.

(4) No more than one permit will be issued to corporations, estates, or other legal associations that jointly own land in the closed area. No individual may obtain more than two permits nor may an individual be named as a participant on more than two permits.

(5) Persons holding a permit can hunt with those individuals named on their permit as specified in paragraph (9) of this subrule on any property they own (or rent/share/lease in the case of tenants) in the closed area provided their activity complies with all other regulations governing hunting. Nothing herein shall permit the hunting of Canada geese on public property within the closed area.

(6) Persons hunting under this permit must adhere to all municipal, county, state and federal regulations that are applicable to hunting and specifically applicable to Canada goose hunting including, but not limited to: daily limits, possession limits, shooting hours, methods of take, and transportation. Hunting as authorized by this rule shall not be used to stir or rally waterfowl.

(7) Hunting within the closed area will be allowed through October 15.

(8) Permit holders will be allowed to take eight Canada geese per year in the closed area.

(9) Permits will be issued only to individual landowners or tenants; however, permit holders must specify, when requesting a permit, the names of all other individuals qualified to hunt on the permit. Individuals qualified to hunt on the permit shall include the landowners or tenants and their spouses, children, children's spouses, grandchildren, siblings and siblings' spouses only.

*c. Procedures.*

(1) Permits can be obtained from the local conservation officer at the wildlife unit headquarters within the closed area at announced times, but no later than 48 hours before the first Canada goose season opens. The permit will be issued to an individual landowner or tenant and must list the names of all individuals that may hunt with the permittee. The permit will also contain a description of the property covered by the permit. The permit must be carried by a member of the hunting party whose name is listed on the permit. Conservation officers will keep a record of permittees and locations of properties that are covered by permits.

(2) Eight consecutively numbered tags will be issued with each permit. Geese will be tagged around the leg immediately upon being reduced to possession and will remain tagged until delivered to the person's abode. Within one week of the close of hunting within the closed area during at least the first three years the hunt is permitted, unused tags must be turned in at the wildlife unit headquarters within the closed area or the permittee must report the number of geese killed. Failure to turn in unused tags or report the number of geese killed within the specified time period may result in the permittee's forfeiting the opportunity to hunt within the closed area the following year.

(3) No one may attempt to take Canada geese under this permit unless the person possesses an unused tag for the current year.

(4) No landowner or tenant shall be responsible or liable for violations committed by other individuals listed on the permit issued to the landowner or tenant.

**91.5(2) Reserved.**

**571—91.6(481A) Youth waterfowl hunt.** A special youth waterfowl hunt will be held statewide on October 5 and 6, 2002. Youth hunters must be 15 years old or younger. Each youth hunter must be accompanied by an adult 18 years old or older. The youth hunter does not need to have a hunting license or stamps. The adult must have a valid hunting license and habitat stamp if normally required to have them to hunt and a state waterfowl stamp. Only the youth hunter may shoot ducks and coots. The adult may hunt for any other game birds for which the season is open. The daily bag and possession limits are the same as for the regular waterfowl season, as defined in subrule 91.1(1). All other hunting regulations in effect for the regular waterfowl season apply to the youth hunt.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, and 481A.48.

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